

PLANNING AHEAD

Notes for the Planning Community

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Senior Planning Vacancies

We have created this special section in *Planning Ahead* to highlight vacancy announcements for senior planning positions, especially planning chief positions. We encourage all divisions and districts to place senior planner position announcements in *Planning Ahead* to give them greater visibility. Also you can find most vacancy announcements at <http://cpol.army.mil/va/scripts/public.html>

Honolulu District

The Honolulu Engineer District has two (2) GS-12 Interdisciplinary Project Manager positions, available to GS-0110, 0193, 0401, 0801, 0808, 0810, 0819, 1301 series. The position is in Programs and Project Management Division, but since the restructuring of the District, the Planning and PM functions have been essentially combined. Similar to planning organizations, the individual will be responsible for managing plan formulation, determining tech requirements, scheduling, budgeting, report preparation. The PM side of duties will also involve reporting at PRBs, interfacing with DE and customers, monitoring and distributing funds, heading up team, assuring construction contract awards and performance. The Honolulu is probably the smallest civil works district, but has its share of navigation, shore protection, ecosystems, and flood control projects and studies. We are located at Fort Shafter, an Army installation in beautiful Honolulu and all Federal employees received 25% COLA, free of tax from Uncle Sam. If interested, please look for the announcement at the <http://cpol.army.mil> website, under Pacific and Hawaii.

Sacramento District

The Sacramento District will be advertising a GS-12 Regional Economist position shortly. The economist will manage a number of studies being conducted simultaneously on various timetables. Duties include the mentoring of lower-graded employees on economic studies for various water projects throughout portions of several states in the western U.S. (California, Utah, Nevada). Projects subject to economic analysis vary in complexity from conventional construction of levees to major construction projects of multipurpose dams. There are also major navigation studies such as the Sacramento River Deep Water Ship Channel. Sacramento, the capitol of California, has a population in excess of 369,000 and is located in the Central Valley. The Sacramento metropolitan area has a population in excess of one million. Summers are hot and dry; winters, during which most of the rainfall occurs, are moderate in temperature. Housing for rent or purchase is readily available. For additional information contact Daniel Herman, Chief of Economics, in the Sacramento District. 

Items of Note - On the Web

Ellen Cummings - CECW-PD


You can click on <http://www.usace.army.mil/inet/usace-docs/> to get to the main publications page and then the “What’s New” link to keep track of the new publications. Recent publications of note:

- ER 1105-2-100 is now on the web at <http://www.usace.army.mil/inet/usace-docs/eng-regs/er1105-2-100/toc.htm>. Be sure to check it out. This replaces all previous versions and the Continuing Authorities Programs ECs 1105-2-209, 211 and 214. The funding specifics in EC 1105-2-217 are still in effect. This was a massive undertaking so if you have questions or find contradictions or omissions please contact Lillian Almodovar, CECW-PD.

Other links of note:

- Congressional news. On 16 May 2000, the Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee held a hearing on Corps backlog and missions. There was general support for the Corps although various individuals expressed some concerns. A summary of the hearing, including links to witness statements, may be found at <http://www.usace.army.mil/inet/functions/cw/cecwa/branches/legislative/hearing16may.PDF>
- Sustainability. A group of science academies from around the world met the week of 14 May in Tokyo for a conference on global sustainability and announced the creation of a new organization to address issues of international concern. The InterAcademy Council, to be headquartered in Amsterdam, will bring groups of scientists, engineers, and medical experts together to advise international bodies such as the United Nations and the World Bank. A news article about the InterAcademy Council may be found at <http://www.nationalacademies.org/topnews/#0515>. To learn more about the conference, including the statement issued at the conclusion of the meeting that underscores the importance of science and technology in meeting current human needs while maintaining the environment and natural resources for future generations see http://www.interacademies.net/intracad/tokyo2000.nsf/all/sustainability_statement. There are links to the agenda and presentations but most are only available as audio files.

- Social Impact Assessment. Bruce Carlson, CEWRC-IWR-R, provided the following site assessments. The NOAA site is not too bad. It does not give much help for one of the most contentious parts of the process – determining significance of impacts:
<http://www.gsa.gov/pbs/pt/call-in/siagide.htm>. The Forest Service site includes links to CEQ, NEPA guidance, Environmental Justice guidance, and training material:
<http://www.fs.fed.us/forum/nepa/nepaeaseiss.html>.
- Listening Sessions. Fourteen listening sessions have been scheduled around the country from mid-June until mid-September to provide an opportunity for the Corps to hear from individuals and organizations in a effort to assess the needs and priorities for the nation's water resources. To learn more about the 6 identified "Challenges" and the schedule for the listening schedules see <http://www.wrsc.usace.army.mil/iwr/waterchallenges/index.htm>. This interactive site provides a brief summary of each of the "Challenges", allows individuals to register to attend one of the sessions, and provides for an online dialogue regarding the issues.

If you are aware of a site that may be of interest to others, please send a note with the address and a brief description to Ellen Cummings. 


Waterborne Commerce Data Tailored for Alaska District

Charlotte Cook and Debra Jackson – CEWRC-NDC-C

The Navigation Data Center's Waterborne Commerce Statistics Center (WCSC) provides customized extracts of detailed waterborne commerce and associated vessel movement data to the Corps districts. This article highlights a service recently provided to Alaska District. The District's Economics Section requested the confidential detail records of cargo movements for the state of Alaska for Calendar Years (CY) 1997 and 1998. Traffic movements, for all locations in the state of Alaska, were required for the Reconnaissance Study of Navigational Improvements of the Western and Arctic Coast of Alaska. These records also would be used to update the De Long Mountain Terminal Study.

WCSC used Microsoft Access to extract the requested information from the "The Oracle Waterborne System"(TOWS) database. SQL queries written in Access pulled only the detail records that occurred in the state of Alaska. Support files were created for all of the records that occurred in the state. The following support tables were created: alternate routes, commodity, docks, vessel, operator, port and waterway. The operator file contained the name, address, telephone number, etc. of all operators moving vessels within the state. Similarly, a vessel file was prepared which contained the name, net registered tons, length, breadth, highest fixed point, etc. of all of the domestic vessels operating within the state of Alaska.

The Alaska District received an Access database containing detail tables for each of CY 1997 and 1998. Support tables with cross-reference descriptions for numeric/character codes in the detail file were also provided. Virtually a "Mini" TOWS Access database was created for the state of Alaska. Since all traffic movements for the state were included in the database, the Alaska District has all of the waterborne transportation information concerning Alaska at their fingertips and available for analysis using Access.

Further information regarding similar services may be directed to the authors at 504-862-1473, 504-862-1472 or by e-mail. The Alaska District point of contact is Richard Geiger. 

Official Ranking of U.S. Inland Waterway Ports

Arlene Dietz—CEWRC-NDC

A separate ranking of Inland Waterway Ports was recently requested of the Navigation Data Center. Routinely the top 150 U.S. ports are ranked within the Waterborne Commerce of the United States—Part 5 and the top 100 are ranked in the annual TRANSPORTATION FACTS card (these 100 are further coded by inland, coastal or Great Lakes). Both of these publications are found on the web at www.wrsc.usace.army.mil/ndc.

The top 20 Inland Waterway Ports and associated tonnage for 1998 ranked by total tonnage are as follows:

- | | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| 1) Pittsburgh, PA (52,904,388) | 2) St. Louis, MO & IL (31,757,671) |
| 3) Huntington, WV (24,738,617) | 4) Memphis, TN (17,210,885) |
| 5) Cincinnati, OH (11,987,060) | 6) Louisville, KY (8,616,878) |
| 7) Albany, NY (6,723,116) –
(5,514,652 domestic and 1,208,464 foreign) | |
| 8) Vicksburg, MS (5,824,652) | 9) Mount Vernon, IN (5,577,100) |
| 10) St. Paul, MN (5,014,235) | 11) Nashville, TN (4,019,135) |
| 12) Kansas City, MO (3,451,378) | 13) Greenville, MS (3,254,825) |
| 14) Guntersville, AL (2,920,505) | 15) Chattanooga, TN (2,743,034) |
| 16) Port of Catoosa (Tulsa), OK (2,367,486) | 17) Helena, AR (2,033,325) |
| 18) Minneapolis, MN (1,660,628) | 19) Hempstead, NY (1,112,952) |
| 20) Natchez, MS (620,455) | |

Rankings beyond the top 20 may be requested from Charlotte Cook at 504-862-1473. Provide your suggestions for new summary statistical products and the most helpful media to Arlene Dietz, Director, Navigation Data Center by e-mail or at 703-428-7071. [📖](#)


Corps Projects Receive Recognition

Norman Edwards - CECW-PF

Recipients of the annual Coastal America (CA) National Partnership Awards were selected at the 9 May 2000 meeting of the Coastal America principals. These awards recognize outstanding partnership efforts or multi-agency projects to protect and restore coastal ecosystems. They are given in three categories: (1) "shovel in the ground" projects, (2) process, and (3) education/outreach. Of the seven nominees entered in the project category, the Corps was lead agency in two of the three projects selected to receive awards - Breton Island Restoration, LA (New Orleans District, Sec. 204) and Little Falls Fishway, MD (Baltimore District, Sec. 1135). Congratulations to all of the parties involved in making these projects a success. Other Corps projects considered included Poplar Island, MD, Environmental Restoration (CENAB), Battery Island, NC, Bird Habitat Preservation (CESAW, Sec.204), and Guadalupe River, CA, Flood Control Project Collaborative (CESPK). For additional information on the awards and the nomination process contact Norm Edwards (norman.t.edwards@usace.army.mil).

National Corporate Wetlands Restoration Partnership

Norman Edwards - CECW-PF

In the April issue of "Planning Ahead" Bill Hubbard, CENAE, wrote about "Ecosystem Restoration Partnering in Massachusetts" and in March John Wright described the "National Corporate Wetlands Restoration Partnership". At the 9 May 2000 meeting, the Coastal America Principals agreed to enter into a National Corporate Wetlands Restoration Partnership (NCWRP), for which the National Association of Manufacturers serves as the National Corporate Sponsor and the Gillette Company as National Corporate Chair. The Partnership is a new public-private program that will make corporate contributions available to match or cost share with Federal and State funds to restore the Nation's environmentally valuable wetlands and other aquatic habitats. Coastal America will approve all projects and provide technical assistance through their partner agencies to ensure proper execution. Since funds from the NCWRP will only be used to support Coastal America restoration projects, Corps projects must be endorsed by a Coastal America Regional Implementation Team (RIT) before becoming eligible for NCWRP assistance. 


Planning Workshop

Ruth Brodie - SPD

The annual SPD Planning Workshop was held in Santa Fe, NM on 2-4 May 2000, and was attended by over 80 participants from the four districts within SPD and included several from NWD and SWD. Jim Johnson, John Lucyshyn and Jo Ann Duman provided the HQ perspective.

This year's theme was "Back to Basics", and included basic training in plan formulation, economic evaluations and environmental analyses and restoration features. Each of our Districts, as well as NWW and NWP, gave a presentation on a challenging plan formulation problem, and elicited ideas from the audience. SPA led a brainstorming and formulation exercise at an actual study site in Santa Fe.

Sue Fry spoke on "how it really is" working in Washington. Kay Whitlock, a long-time local sponsor with the Santa Clara Valley Water District, gave an inspiring and fascinating speech from a sponsor's perspective of the Corps.

The response from those attending was that this format should be repeated at other training workshops. 

Instructions for Contributors to Planning Ahead

This newsletter is designed to improve the communication among all the planners and those we work with throughout the Corps. We hope that future editions will have mostly information and perspective from those of you on the front lines in the districts. We hope that these notes become a forum for you to share your experiences to help all of us learn from each other. We can't afford to reinvent the wheel in each office. We welcome your thoughts, questions, success stories, and bitter lessons so that we can share them on these pages. The articles should be short (2-3 paragraphs) except in some cases where you just have to say more.

- Use WORD 97, if at all possible
- Use “normal” style
- Use Times New Roman font, 11 pitch
- All text should be left justified with start of each paragraph indented by one tab stop.
- Each article should have short title with only initial letter of each word capitalized
- Following each title should be author's name and organization
- Last line should be contact information – phone number or e-mail address



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That single line of text should be: “subscribe ls-planningahead”.

If you want to be removed from the distribution list use: “unsubscribe ls-planningahead”.

To obtain a 'help' file, send only the word 'help' in the text of the message (nothing in the subject line) and address it to majordomo@usace.army.mil.

The web site for additional information is: <http://eml01.usace.army.mil/other/listserv.html>

Submissions Deadline

The deadline for material for the next issue is **26 June 2000**

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